

HAPPY UNCLE SAM DAY! Did you know Congress designated September 13 Uncle Sam Day? Uncle Sam got its name after Samuel Wilson, a meat packer who supplied beef to the Army during the War of 1812. Wilson stamped the barrels with "U.S." for United States, but soldiers began referring to the grub as Uncle Sam's.



GAZEBOEXPRESS

YOUR COMMUNITY NEWS AND EVENT SOURCE FOR THE TOWN OF HIGHLAND • SEPTEMBER 2014

ACT II: THEATRE'S FATE

Future of the historic Town Theatre in the hands of the town council

The Council will determine if the Town Theatre project will move forward by September's end.

The council met with the Redevelopment Commission in August to discuss the unique project that is planned to anchor an arts and entertainment district in downtown Highland.

At issue is the cost of renovation and acquiring adjacent properties as well as ongoing subsidy necessary as the theatre regains its financial footing.

Councilman Dennis Adams said he has mixed feelings about the town running a theatre.

Redevelopment Director Cecile Petro said revenues for the project could come from the downtown Tax Increment Financing District as well as the county option tax, which is already in place.

"The Town Theatre renovation represents far more than simply fixing up an icon of our town," Councilman Dan Vassar said. "This is an opportunity to help our downtown businesses thrive while attracting new retail to the corridor." 🐦

ART FOR THE ARTS ...



Robert Brasher has unveiled his contribution to the revitalization of the Town Theatre. The famed urban painter will split proceeds from the sale of prints of this original artwork.

HOW TO GET INVOLVED ...

Highland Main Street is looking for volunteers to work on the Town, as well as initiatives to create an arts and theatre district.

INFO: If you're interested in volunteering, contact Redevelopment Director Cecile Petro at cpetro@highland.in.gov or (219) 972-7598.

NEW FOOD PURVEYOR

The new GFS Marketplace will open its first Highland location at 10 a.m. Sept. 23. The Grand-Rapids-based GFS will present a \$1,000 check to Meals on Wheels of Northwest Indiana at the ribbon cutting, which will be followed by a week of food tastings and drawing for a \$300 shopping spree. GFS will anchor development on the west side of Indianapolis Boulevard at Main Street.

TOR-TA-STIC NEWS!

Beer manufacturer Samuel Adams is once again tapping Fernando Gutierrez, owner of Torti Products in Highland. Gutierrez was recognized by Samuel Adams in 2013 as part of its Brewing the American Dream program.

Gutierrez finished second in April in the next phase that challenged promising entrepreneurs to offer up their best product pitch. He thought he was done until the company called and offered the tortilla maker an all-expenses trip to the national finals in December in New York. Congrats!

INFO: Call (219) 730-2071 or email tortiproductions@gmail.com.



... TOWN TICKER ...

Dress up like a police officer, firefighter or soldier and head to the **Local Heroes for Little Heroes Childhood Cancer Awareness Walk** at 2 p.m. September 7 at Lemon Lake County Park in Crown Point. Proceeds benefit the **Northwest Indiana Cancer Kids Foundation**. **INFO:** Call Highland's B&B Custom Events at (219) 689-2182 or email info@BandBCustomEvents.com ... The **Victory for Veterans Memorial Ride**, which attracts more than 1,700 motorcyclists each year, will be held from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sept. 28 at Wicker Memorial Park. This year's event features more food and activities, including a flyover by the **Lima Lima Flight Team**. Money raised will be donated to the **Veterans Build** to provide housing so that no Northwest Indiana veteran is left homeless.

PARDON OUR CONSTRUCTION ZONE!

The tranquil surroundings at the Highland Municipal Building have been disrupted.

Hold on to your hats because things are going to get more rambunctious in the next month or so when construction gains steam and accessing Town Hall will become a bit more of a challenge.

Residents who need to visit the Police Department must already enter the main doors on the south. The north access is blocked and the parking lot

has been demolished.

By the middle of September, a new temporary lot should be in place on the north side of the building and residents who need to visit Town Hall should park there and use a temporary ramp constructed on the east side of the building to gain entry.

"We will all be experiencing a few growing pains," Clerk-Treasurer Michael Griffin said. "We have worked to make this as easy for our residents as possible." 🐦



DECODING THE CODE ...

Chapter 12 of the Highland Municipal Code is devoted to garbage and recycling for families and businesses.

The rules are straightforward:

- ✓ All garbage and recycling should fit into town-issued containers and placed at ground level within the right-of-way of a street or alley no sooner than 6 p.m. on the day before collection and retrieved no later than 6 p.m. on collection day.
- ✓ Containers should be placed at the rear of the property all other days.
- ✓ Violating the rules can lead to a fine.

INFO: highland.in.gov/MunicipalCode

CRIME WATCH MEETING

Learn about the latest crime trends at this month's crime watch meeting.

WHEN: 6:30 p.m. **SEPT. 17**

WHERE: Highland Library

INFO: Call (219) 838-3184 or email sanderson@highland.in.gov.



WARD 1

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(219) 781-1056



WARD 2

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NEWS TIP? STORY IDEA?

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AGGRESSIVE DOGS PROMPT POLICE TO RIGOROUSLY ENFORCE PET LAWS

The Highland Police Department has upped its enforcement activity as it relates to its animal ordinances because of a few recent violent dog attacks on both humans and other animals.

In addition, the Highland Police Commission held two hearings regarding dangerous dogs. Most years, the commission has had no need to convene even one hearing.

Both cases resulted in the animals being euthanized.

Police Chief Pete Hojnicky said the last thing he, or any member of the Highland Police Department or Police Commission, wants to see is an animal ordered destroyed.

Sometimes, the town has been left with no other choice. The first responsibility is to protect the health and well-being of the public.

In the last 30 days, police confiscated three dogs from a homeowner who repeatedly failed to contain her animals. Two pit bulls and a chow were relinquished to the Humane Society of the Calumet Region in Munster for evaluation,

THE 4-1-1 FOR PET OWNERS

- ✓ All dogs and cats must have a town-issued license and be up-to-date on vaccinations.
- ✓ All dogs must be leashed.
- ✓ Owners must provide humane care, treatment.
- ✓ Owners are responsible for removal of waste on public or private property.
- ✓ Fines are \$50 for a first offense and increase if there is a repeat infraction.
- ✓ Pet licenses may be revoked if the owner fails to comply.

rehabilitation and reintroduction to a new family because they did not pose an immediate danger and police were able to intervene.

"These instances have been difficult for everyone involved," Hojnicky said.

"We are asking every pet owner and potential pet owner to review the town laws regarding household pets and follow them. These laws were created to protect the welfare of humans, as well as their canine companions." 🐾

HIGHLAND COMMUNITY FOUNDATION SEEKS NEIGHBORHOOD SPOTLIGHT GRANT

The Highland Community Foundation is looking to expand its reach through grant funding available through the Legacy Foundation.

The town foundation has applied to become a participant in the innovative Neighborhood Spotlight, a Legacy program that funds expansion programs in communities to foster positive change and enhance the vitality of the region.

Richard Underkoffler, secretary of the Highland Community Foundation, said the grant would allow the town to hire a full-time organizer who would help prepare a community-wide development plan and implement projects identified in the plan.

"This program is a collaboration that recognizes one community's actions can positively impact another," Underkoffler said. "We are very hopeful the Legacy Foundation receives our application favorably and that we are one of the first commu-

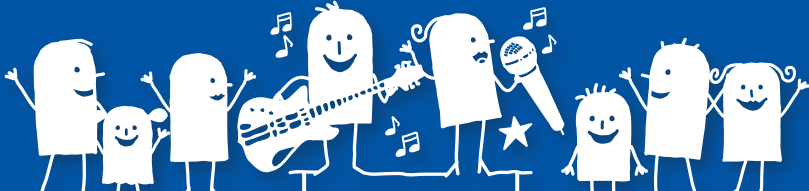
nities to get moving on this initiative."

The program is based on five goals, including:

- ✓ A shared vision for change
- ✓ Consistent data and result measurements
- ✓ Project incentives and programs that reinforce a collective plan of action
- ✓ Consistent and open communication
- ✓ Allowing one convening organization to lead the initiative

Competition is keen for a prized spot in the program, which is expected to roll out in 2015 and continue for the next three to five years.

"We are amassing support within the community to become a participant," Underkoffler said. "From the Town Council to our civic clubs, individuals throughout Highland see the value and potential in the Neighborhood Spotlight initiative." 🐾



MUSIC & THE MARKET

Michelle Velez shouldered the responsibility of booking talent for the Saturday outdoor street markets this summer and found her career niche in the process.

The senior at University of Indianapolis is a music major who plans to attend Valparaiso University for her master's in arts and entertainment management.

"This internship was an eye-opener for me: I loved it," the Griffith native said. "I found that booking talent, getting everything set up and making sure every performance runs smoothly is something I love to do."

In the early weeks of the outdoor market, Velez, who plays guitar and is classically trained in voice, performed too.

"We were able to tap into talent through social media. It helped that Highland Main Street through the Redevelopment Commission was able to pay musicians this year," she said. "It made such a difference at the market. People sing. They dance. The vendors give the performers vegetables, gift cards, even dog treats. It made everything so much fun." 🐾

THE MARKET

The outdoor market features fresh produce, cheeses, breads, teas, coffees, spices, tamales and more.

WHEN: 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Saturdays through **OCT. 18**
WHERE: Main Square Park
INFO: Call (219) 838-0114 or visit highlandparks.org.

THE MUSIC

Musicians performing from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. ...

SEPT. 13
Hayley Schwartzman

SEPT. 20: Tony Cortina

SEPT. 27: Krystal Quagliara

OCT. 4: David Blixt

OCT. 11: Infinity Pool

OCT. 18: Michael Stupar

ROOT FOR THE CUBBIES!

Celebrate Wrigley Field's 100th birthday during the last weekend game of the regular season as the Chicago Cubs host the Los Angeles Dodgers. Attendees under 18 must be accompanied by an adult.

WHEN: School bus departs Lincoln Community Center at 10:30 a.m.

SEPT. 21. Game time is 1:20 p.m.

WHERE: Wrigley Field, Chicago

TICKETS: \$50 includes transportation to and from Wrigley Field. Seats are located in the Upper Deck Box Outfield, Section 406. Tickets are limited and must be purchased in advance at Lincoln Community Center.

NOTE: Attendees will be required to walk four blocks to the bus parking area following the game.

INFO: Visit www.highlandparks.org or call (219) 838-0114.



CHORUS AUDITIONS

The Northwest Indiana Youth Chorus invites singers 6 to 18 to audition by appointment for its fall season. Skilled music educators offer instruction in solo vocal techniques and choral singing. The group rehearses weekly in preparation for two concerts, one in December and one in May. The chorus frequently participates in regional music festivals, musical theatre and liturgical activities.

REHEARSALS: Begin **SEPT. 8**

WHERE: Lincoln Community Center
INFO: For more information or to schedule an audition, please contact Dr. Bonita Neff at (219) 629-5448 or email atbdneff@iun.edu.

FESTIVAL OF THE TRAIL GROWING AS GRIFFITH JOINS ANNUAL EVENT

The first-ever Festival of the Trail was such a success, Highland Main Street is staging a repeat performance.

The 2014 Festival will be held along the downtown portion of the Erie Lackawanna Trail and feature art, entertainment and food coupled with fun activities, like Zumba and bicycle-safety demonstrations.

Griffith will join in the fun this year and add events along its portion of the trail.

"This is exactly what Highland Main Street envisioned when we launched the festival last autumn," Redevelopment Director Cecile Petro said. Join us as we debut this year's Festival of the Trail from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Oct. 11.

Until then, here are dates to remember:

SEPT. 15: Deadline for businesses to submit discount coupons and vendors to apply.

OCT. 5: Highland Main Street and Festival volunteer meeting at Town Hall.

INFO: Call Cecile Petro at (219) 972-7598 or email CPetro@highland.in.gov.

HIGHLAND GIRLS' BASKETBALL

Register your child now for Highland Girls' basketball in person or online at www.HighlandGirlsBasketball.com. Girls will play the following schedule based on grade level:

GRADE 7 - 8: October through mid-December

GRADE 5 - 6: November through January

GRADE 2 - 4: November through March

REGISTRATION: 7 to 9 p.m. Wednesday, **SEPT. 10** and from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, **SEPT. 13**

WHERE: Lincoln Community Center

FE: \$100 includes basketball and team shirt

INFO: Call/text Dale Fieldhouse at (219) 712-6044 or email FieldhouseRefrig@aol.com.

RUMMAGE, BAKE & PIEROGI SALE

Hunt for gently-used gems and enjoy homemade treats at the fall garage and bake sale, hosted by St. James Women's Guild. Clothes are \$1 a bag on Saturday!

WHEN: 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday, **SEPT. 26**

and 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, **SEPT. 27**

WHERE: St. James Hall, 9640 Kennedy Ave.

DONATION: Donations may be dropped off from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday, **SEPT. 24** and Thursday, **SEPT. 25**.

INFO: Call Helen at (219) 924-5783.

ABC PLAYTIME

This "Mommy & Me" class is designed for 1½- to 2½-year-olds who want to learn but aren't quite ready for preschool. You and your child will enjoy age-appropriate activities and crafts.

WHEN: 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Tuesdays

and Thursdays, **SEPT. 30 - DEC. 18**

WHERE: Lincoln Community Center

FE: \$127 residents/\$137 nonresidents

INFO: highlandparks.org or (219) 838-0114.

BIDDY BOWLING

Biddy Bowling is a non-instructional five-week program for boys and girls ages 4 to 11. Join us for a game of bumper bowling each week!

WHEN: 11:30 a.m. **OCT. 4 - NOV. 1**

WHERE: Plaza Lanes, 8101 Kennedy Ave.

REGISTRATION: Deadline is **SEPT. 28**

FE: \$36 resident/\$39 nonresidents

INFO: highlandparks.org or (219) 838-0114.

CALLING ALL VENDORS!

Do you have items you would like to resell, but don't want to invite people into your home to show your products? Join the community garage sale in conjunction with the card and comic shows this fall. Booth availability is on a first-come, first-served basis. Stop in at Lincoln Center to reserve your space today!

VENDOR FEE PER SHOW: \$26.75 per 10' x 10' interior space or \$42.80 per 23' X 6' wall space. Tables, chairs and extension cords are not provided. Vendors must bring their own.

WHEN: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. **OCT. 11** and **NOV. 22**

WHERE: Lincoln Community Center

INFO: highlandparks.org or (219) 838-0114.

Highland's 3rd annual ... OKTOBERFEST

The Highland Community Foundation's 3rd Oktoberfest - from 6 to 9 p.m. Oct. 2 - will feature an auction, live entertainment, craft beers, wines and all of the fixings for a true Munich-style feast. Your donation will help fund landscape features for our new green space at the southeast corner of 5th and 45th streets.

OCTOBER 2

*Lincoln Community
Center Banquet Hall*

THE FOOD ...

Sample traditional German and Bavarian fare including Wiener Schnitzel, German potato salad, sauerkraut, sweet and sour red cabbage, Sauerbraten, Spaetzel, Bratwurst, Knockwurst, hot pretzels with mustard and delicious apple strudel.

THE DRINKS ...

Craft beer and wine will round out the evening.

THE MUSIC ...

An evening of traditional German music and songs.

THE INFO ...

Tickets are \$85 per person or \$150 couple (\$56 is tax deductible). To purchase tickets, donate a raffle item, select a donor recognition opportunity, acquire an engraved brick paver or make a contribution for the Ashley Ritz memorial sculpture, contact Rich at runderkofler76@comcast.net or (312) 550-4478.

